DISPATCH

SECRET

MARKED FOR INDEXING

TO CHIEF OF STATION, GERMANY

INFO. CHIEF, EE CHIEF, BONN OPERATIONS BASE

CHIEF OF BASE, BERLIN

CHIEF, MUNICH LIAISON BASE

SUBJECT CATIDE

UTILITY'S POLITICAL COMMENTS

ACTION REQUIRED.

and the standing of the state o

1. DURING THE DISCUSSION FROM WHICH THE REFERENCE CAME, I ASKED UTILITY IF HE WERE HAPPY WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION. WITH AN EXPLOSIVE ABRUPTNESS WHICH TOOK ME SOMEWHAT ABACK, HE NEARLY SHOUTED HIS ANSWER - "NO".

- 2. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD BEEN HOPING FOR A GRAND CO-ALITION. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT GO INTO DETAILS, ONE GOT THE IMPRES-SION THAT HE THOUGHT THAT SUCH THINGS AS THE EMERGENCY LAWS AND OTHER MEASURES WOULD HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH SUCH A GOVERNMENT.
- 3. MY OWN REACTION TO HIS RESPONSES WAS AN ALMOST AUTOMATIC CONCLUSION THAT UTILITY BY NATURE FAVORS A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, HE MAY JUST FEEL THAT THE ERHARDT GOVERNMENT HAS DEALT CATIDE A POOR HAND FOR A LONG TIME. THIS MAY IN FACT BE WHAT HE MEANT, AS HE ADDED THAT AS THINGS LOOK "WE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE TO FIGHT FOR MONEY FOR CATIDE, AS OPPOSED TO THE DAYS UNDER ADENAUER WHEN HE MADE THE CATIDE BUDGET A MATTER OF A POLITICAL DECISION! ON WHICH HE WOULD BROOK NO COMMENT FROM TREASURY AND BUDGET BUREAU PEOPLE.
- 4. UTILITY CONCLUDED THAT THE ELECTION WOULD NOT HAVE ANY DISCERNABLE EFFECT ON CATIDE.

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CROSS REFERENCE TO

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DATE

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CLASSIFICATION

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